



Eastern Connecticut Resource Conservation and Development Area, Inc.

139 Wolf Den Road, Brooklyn, CT 06234 * (860) 774-0224 * www.easternrcd-ct.org

John Guskowski, President
Rebecca Auger, Vice President
Barbara Kelly, Treasurer
Norma O'Leary, Secretary

Eastern Connecticut RC&D Council, Inc.
Monday April 28, 2008
1:00-3:00 PM
Meeting Minutes

The Eastern Connecticut RC&D Council, Inc. was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by President John Guskowski.

Present: John Guskowski, WLA, President	Rebecca Auger, CRCOG, Vice President
Norma O'Leary, ECCD, Secretary	Elizabeth Rogers, NRCS
Elaine Sych, ERT	Amanda Fargo-Johnson, ERT
Wini Olson, CRERPA, Council Member	Lee Szruba, TRBP, Council member
Barbara Kelly, NCCD, Treasurer	Tom Seidel, SECCOG, Council member

Secretary's Report:

Motion: To approve the minutes of 03/17/08, with corrections

Motion Made by: Norma O'Leary

Seconded by: Rebecca Auger

Voted: Motion passed

Treasurer's Report:

Motion: To accept Treasurer's report for audit

Motion Made by: Lee Szruba

Seconded by: Norma O'Leary

Voted: Motion passed

Environmental Review Team:

Elaine Sych submitted a written report and discussed the status of requested and conducted reviews. Elaine shared thank you letters from the Towns of Cornwall and Sprague for their appreciation of the ERT program. She also shared a letter from DEP Commissioner Gina McCarthy in which she highly recommended the ERT program to the Town of East Hampton.

The Land Use Education Grant Program is being revisited and guidelines for grant proposals will be developed. DEP and ERT are discussing the possibility of the ERT staff assisting DEP with the development of guides which could include guides for excavation restoration activities, low impact development and vernal pools.

The draft ERT budget for 2008-2009 was discussed. The final budget will be presented at the RC&D annual meeting in June.

Greenways:

South Branch of the Park River (SBPR): The ground breaking ceremony for the SBPR is scheduled for May 9th at 2:30 at the corner of Nilan Street and Brookfield Avenue.

Livable Communities:

Tour des Farms (TDF): The next TDF will be September 20th in Simsbury. Rebecca and representatives from The Simsbury Land Trust met with area farmers to discuss TDF and to ask them

to participate in this year's ride. Eight farms will be involved with the ride. The next committee meeting is scheduled for May 14th in Hartford.

LULA: There will be two LULA sessions held this spring in Fairfield County and one held this fall with the town of Lebanon.

Middletown Agriculture Viability Grant: Middletown Project: The council has received the final payment for work on this project.

Green Valley Institute (GVI) request for funding: RC&D and GVI are sponsoring two workshops this spring. The workshops are scheduled for May 8th Smart Zoning Techniques-The Tale of two Grotons and May 21st Wastewater Treatment Alternatives and Smart Growth.

Agriculture Committee:

Woodstock Marketing/Business Plan: The council has hired The Cooperative Development Institute to develop the business and marketing plan. The project will start the beginning of May.

North Canaan 319 Grant: RC&D and DEP are working on the contracts for the North Canaan Nutrient management – Dairy Manure composting grant \$144,796.

Council on Soil and Water: The Council on Soil and Water will meet in the next few weeks.

Barbara Kelly will ask the Council to consider sponsoring the Oct New England RC&D Conference in Mystic.

New Business:

John Guskowski

- **Sponsorship request Celebrating Agriculture:**
Motion: To sponsor Celebrating Agriculture at the \$250.00, Silver Level
Motion Made by: Rebecca Augur
Seconded by: Lee Szruba
Voted: Motion passed
- **Brownfield Workshop w/CME 5/28:** John Guskowski asked the council if they would be interested in cosponsoring the "Planning for Brownfield Reuse and Redevelopment Opportunities for Eastern CT Communities" Seminar scheduled for May 28th with CME Engineering.
Motion: To cosponsor the "Planning for Brownfield Reuse and Redevelopment Opportunities for Eastern CT Communities" Seminar with CME Engineering.
Motion Made by: Lee Szruba
Seconded by: Barbara Kelly
Voted: Motion passed
- **Draft 2009 Budget:** The draft budget was reviewed and will be voted on at the annual meeting in June.
- **National RC&D Meeting, June 14-18 2009:** The national meeting is scheduled for June 14-18 2009 in Albuquerque New Mexico
- **CRCOG request to join the Coalition for a Walkable Bikeable Hartford Region:** Rebecca Augur asked the council if they would write a letter in support the Walkable Bikeable Hartford region initiative.
Motion: To support the Walkable Bikeable Hartford region initiative.
Motion Made by: Barbara Kelly
Seconded by: Tom Seidel
Voted: Motion passed

Old business:

- **Council Liability Insurance, quote:** John Guskowski presented the insurance proposal submitted by The Hartford Casualty Insurance Company
Motion: To accept the insurance plan proposed by s The Hartford Casualty Insurance Company
Motion Made by: Rebecca Augur
Seconded by: Norma O'Leary

Voted: Motion passed

- **Annual Plan:** the draft annual plan for 2008-2009 was review and will be finalized at the annual meeting in June.

Motion: To accept the draft plan as the 2008-2009 plan of work

Motion Made by: Norma O'Leary

Seconded by: Lee Szruba

Voted: Motion passed

- **Award Nominations/Annual Meeting:**

Motion: To present the following with awards at the annual RC&D meeting in June: Pat Williams, Hartford Housing Authority for SBPR, Charmaine Crag, Knox Park for SBPR, Keith Rogers for TDF and Joe Wettemann for the Woodstock Nutrient Management project.

Motion Made by: Norma O'Leary

Seconded by: Lee Szruba

Voted: Motion passed

- **Council nominations/annual meeting:** Nominations will be presented at the annual meeting in June
- **Board Development and Outreach:** The council will discuss this issue at a future meeting
- **New England Association of RC&D Spring Business Meeting:** John Guskowski updated the council on the March Business meeting

The next Council meeting is the Annual Meeting scheduled for June 23rd Connecticut River Museum in Essex

Meeting adjourned at 3:00pm